



CITY OF MESA

# District 3 Newsletter

Winter 2004

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## Mesa Arts Center construction update

As of June 10, 2003, the first anniversary of construction of the Mesa Arts Center, we were one-third complete. Today, the project continues on schedule and within budget. Due to its size and complexity, construction is expected to take about 30 months total, with our grand opening in the spring of 2005.

The downtown Art Center at Center and Main will be a 206,500-square-foot performing arts, visual arts, and arts education facility. It will be the new home for current Mesa Arts Center programs and play host to a variety of performances and groups. The Center will house Mesa Contemporary Arts' five galleries and lecture hall; and two studio buildings with 14 visual/performing arts studios and classrooms, informal performance areas and administration support spaces. The Center's four theaters range from the

1,600-seat Lyric Theater to the 99-seat Anita Cox Farnsworth Studio Theater.

The new Arts Center is expected to draw more than 2,000 people downtown on a typical day and evening, to attend performances gallery exhibits, classes and special events. Expect more than 700 arts classes, 500 performances, and 20 exhibits to take place there

each year. In the first year of construction, the building has begun to take shape with foundation work throughout the site. Some key progress points: Completion of the central plant is targeted for early fall; the mechanical equipment has been installed. The theatre complex concrete structures are in place for four theaters including front and sidewalls, seating areas,

stage areas and fly tower work. Studios South has reached the third level, with interior walls, plumbing and ductwork, and roof decking, under way. The foundation for the Studios North building has been poured. The underground concrete for Mesa Contemporary Arts has been poured, with the ceiling deck at ground level beginning to be placed.



## 40th annual Highland Games to be held at Mesa Community College

The Caledonian Society of Arizona will host the 40th annual Highland Games and Clan gathering on February 28 and 29 2004, at Mesa Community College.

Opening ceremonies for the Highland Games will be

on Saturday, February 28 at 11:30 am, and closing ceremonies will be at 3:30 pm on Sunday, February 29.

Organizers are looking for volunteers for the event. Volunteers contributing 4 or more hours will be eligible for a free admission

ticket.

For additional information on the Highland Games schedule of events or information on volunteering, please visit the Caledonian Society of Arizona website at [arizonascots.com](http://arizonascots.com) or call 602-431-0095.

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# Arizona Museum for Youth reopens on November 22, 2003

The Arizona Museum for Youth reopened on November 22, 2003. The museum is a nationally renowned fine arts museum for children located at 35 North Robson Street, in downtown Mesa. The Museum features a changing gallery that presents three different exhibitions each year. Ongoing, hands-on art activities highlight the cool stuff found in each museum show. Exhibitions in the Main Gallery are recommended for youths 5-12 years of age. The current exhibit in the main gallery is *BowWOW!: Dogs in Art*.

The *BowWOW!: Dogs in Art* exhibit will be at the Museum for Youth through May 21, 2004.

At the Arizona Museum for Youth you will find ArtVille,

which is a special area for children 0-5 years of age. ArtVille is a 2,500-square-foot creative play area that is scheduled to open in spring 2004. ArtVille offers young guests a stimulating space that introduces line, color, shape, and texture in an easy to understand and fun way.

If you have any questions about the current exhibits or need further information regarding the Arizona Museum for Youth, please call 480-644-2467 or visit the City of Mesa's website at [www.cityofmesa.org](http://www.cityofmesa.org).



**Please mark your  
calendars and join**

**Vice Mayor**

**Kavanaugh and Mesa**

**fire fighters at the  
pancake breakfast in**

**March 27, 2004.**

## New Target store coming to district 3

Target recently acquired real estate at Southern Ave. adjacent to Mesa Community College. The land had been formerly occupied by retailers Montgomery Ward and Toys "R" Us.

The Target Corporation has demolished the old stores and is currently in the process of laying the foun-

dation for the new store.

The new Target will provide employment for 200-250 staff, and feature approximately 124,000-square-feet of retail space, including a Garden Center.

The project is on schedule to have its Grand Opening on July 21, 2004.

For additional information on the new Target store, please contact the City of Mesa's Economic Development office at 480-644-2398.

## Mark your spring calendars: district 3 pancake breakfast

Vice Mayor Dennis Kavanaugh will host another pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 27, 2004, at Fire Station 207, 2505 S. Dobson Road.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh's pancake breakfasts provide excellent opportunities for the Vice Mayor

and District 3 citizens to meet and discuss issues impacting Mesa and District 3.

As has become tradition, Mesa fire fighters will serve as the "breakfast chiefs." Timely notices will be sent out by Saul Larsen,



City Council Assistant, as we get closer to the scheduled breakfast.

Please mark your calendars and join Vice Mayor Kavanaugh and Mesa fire fighters at the pancake breakfast on March 27th.

# Mesa's third annual neighborhood conference

*Working Together: Growing Great Neighborhoods*, Mesa's award winning third neighborhood conference will be Saturday, January 31 at the Mesa Centennial Center.

Please come out and choose from a wide variety of activities and enjoy lunch with your neighbors. Whether you're looking to strengthen your skills or want information about becoming more active in your neighborhood, the conference offers something for everyone.

Neighborhood leaders will

share their success stories in an inspiring keynote presentation. CBS 5 news anchor Jon Du Pre will be the master of ceremonies.

Attend workshops to learn all about organizing your neighborhood, making



your neighborhood safe and attractive, homeowners associations, neighborhood resources, historic preservation and expert landscape advice for a beautiful neighborhood.

The conference will feature an expo with displays and information about City and community services. Get answers to your questions about neighborhood services, utilities conservation, Mesa's planning division, Arizona Museum for Youth, the Mesa Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Mesa Family YMCA.

**If you have  
interesting ideas for  
the District 3  
newsletter or would  
like to submit a  
story, please contact  
Saul Larsen, City  
Council Assistant, at  
(480) 644-5294.**

## T-Rex exhibit comes to Mesa's Southwest Museum

The Mesa Southwest Museum is Mesa's municipal museum of cultural and natural history, featuring permanent and changing exhibitions on Arizona and the southwest, from dinosaurs to conquistadors, from the old west to the space age.

The Southwest Museum is

pleased to announce that "A T-Rex Named Sue", the largest Tyrannosaurus-rex skeleton ever discovered, will visit Mesa next January. This exhibit was created by The Field Museum, Chicago, and made possible through the generosity of McDonald's Corporation.

For additional information

on "A T-rex Named Sue" or other exhibits at the Southwest Museum, please call 480-644-5294 or visit the City of Mesa's website at [www.cityofmesa.org](http://www.cityofmesa.org).

## Sculptures In The Streets

The fifth annual *Sculptures In The Street* exhibit will be in downtown Mesa from November 15, 2003 to April 15, 2004.

This year's exhibit is the largest, longest and most diverse. Seventy-six sculptures by artists from across the country are sitting, standing, walking, running, flying, swimming, pedal-

ing, dancing, reading eating, thinking, waving, clanging, smiling, hugging, kissing, fighting, feeding ducks, playing baseball, watching birds, ice skating, or simply posing along the mile-stretch of downtown Mesa's beautiful Main Street, from Country Club



to Mesa Drive. The sculptures include 59 pieces on temporary display for this five-month exhibit.

So come stroll the beautiful, wide sidewalks of downtown Main Street, check out all the unique shops and enjoy the sculptures.

City of Mesa

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*Please visit the City of Mesa  
Web site at [www.CityofMesa.org](http://www.CityofMesa.org)*

## Mesa Sister Cities

The purpose of the Mesa Sister City Association is to foster international cooperation and understanding through community involvement and people-to-people relationships between Mesa citizens and those of other countries. Their belief is that through a variety of exchange programs developed with each Sister City, a bridge of international understanding can be built. The goal for the program is for each community to learn more about each other, and to develop lasting and meaningful exchanges in many areas, including education, business, culture, technology and medicine. These exchange programs

give people, organizations and businesses the opportunity to expand their quality of life as they share and build in their respective areas of interest.

The Mesa Sister City Association is a private, non-profit organization, and also is a member of Sister



Cities International. Affiliations between cities in the United States and other countries began shortly after 1945. In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower initiated the People-to-People Program at the White House. Out of this grew Sister Cities International, which has assisted more than 1065 U.S. cities and countries establish links with some 1,688 communities in 177 other nations in the world.

For additional information on the Mesa Sister Cities program, please contact Jack Sellers at 480-786-1133.